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#3

A MARVEL COMICS LIMITED SERIES



MARVEL SUPER HERO CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS™

AND THE WINNER...

DEATH!



Stan Lee
PRESENTS

MARVEL SUPER HERO CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS!

IN AN ORBITING ARENA ON THE THRESHOLD OF SPACE, EVERY SINGLE SUPER HERO ON EARTH HAS BEEN GATHERED...



...TO HELPLESSLY AWAIT THE OUTCOME OF THE MOST FANTASTIC CONTEST OF ALL TIME!

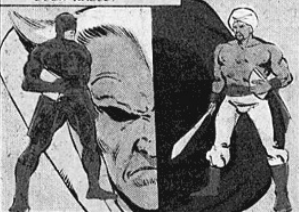
TO THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE EARTH, TWENTY-FOUR OF THEIR NUMBER HAVE BEEN SENT TO COMPETE AGAINST ONE ANOTHER.

THEIR OBJECT: TO FIND THE PIECES OF THE GOLDEN GLOBE OF LIFE, A MYSTIC OBJECT CAPABLE OF RAISING THE DEAD!

TWELVE ARE THE CHOSEN Pawns OF THE GRANDMASTER, THE GALACTIC GAMBLING ADDICT!

THE OTHER TWELVE PLAY FOR HIS OPPONENT, THE UNKNOWN!

TWO CONTESTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN WAGED.



THE WINNERS WERE DAREDEVIL, AGENT OF THE GRANDMASTER... AND THE ARABIAN KNIGHT, AGENT OF THE UNKNOWN.

TWO CONTESTS REMAIN YET TO BE PLAYED. THE GRANDMASTER NEEDS TO WIN BOTH OF THEM IN ORDER TO ACQUIRE THE GOLDEN GLOBE TO RESTORE LIFE TO HIS IMMORTAL BROTHER.



AS FOR THE HEROES, MANY HAVE THE FEELING THAT NO MATTER WHICH CHAMPION WINS, THE EARTH WILL LOSE...

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CHAPTER
4

THIRD
CONTEST:

SIEGE IN THE CITY OF THE DEAD!

THE UNKNOWN'S
TEAM:
VANGUARD
ANGEL
BLACK PANTHER

Story by... MARK GRUENWALD STEVEN GRANT BILL MANTLO Script by... BILL MANTLO Pencils by... JOHN ROMITA JR. Inks by... PABLO MARCOS





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ACROSS THE PLAIN, THE UNKNOWN'S CHAMPIONS WATCH AS THE GRAND-MASTER'S TEAM DISPERSES!



OUR OPPONENTS SEEM MOST UN-DISCIPLINED.

IT IS GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, ANGEL. HOW ARE THE REST OF THE X-MEN?



AS STRANGE AS EVER! THERE'S A WHOLE NEW TEAM NOW, T'CHALLA. I WAS WITH THEM A WHILE BUT IT DIDN'T WORK OUT. NOW ARE THE AVENGERS?

I HAVE NOT BEEN AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE AVENGERS OF LATB.



COMRADES, WE WASTE PRECIOUS TIME THAT WOULD BE BETTER SPENT SEEKING THE PRIZE.

SINCE A STRATEGY IS ESSENTIAL, I PROPOSE THAT I-- VANGUARD--SERVE AS FIELD COMMANDER! SUCH WAS MY RANK IN THE SOVIET SUPER-SOLDIERS!



LISTEN, IVAN-- IT JUST SO HAPPENS THAT THE BLACK PANTHER IS THE LEADER OF AN ENTIRE AFRICAN NATION!

IF ANYONE LEADS US-- HE SHOULD!

WE ARE ALL CAPABLE OF LEADERSHIP. ANGEL-- HENCE A LEADER IS NOT NECESSARY.



VERY WELL. THEN WE MUST SET FORTH AND LOCATE OUR OPPONENTS, SCOUT THEIR STRENGTHS, HOLD THEM IN DETENTE.

THAT MAY NOT BE NECESSARY. OUR PRIZE MAY BE GAINED BY STEALTH AND CUNNING, NOT CONFLICT.

SAH, WE WASTE TIME. ANGEL-- YOU BEGIN AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE.



I WAS GOING TO ANYWAY, RED.

NOW THEN, BLACK-GARBED ONE, HOW DO YOU PROPOSE TO USE STEALTH AND CUNNING ON A FLAT PLAIN IN BROAD DAYLIGHT--?



PANTHER--?

HE'S GONE! BUT HOW--?



HMMM, PERHAPS STEALTH AND CUNNING MAY BE OF SOME USE.

ALREADY HUNDREDS
OF METERS AHEAD
OF VANGUARD THE
BLACK PANTHER
IS THE FIRST TO
SET EYES ON...

A CITY...OF
THE DEAD?!

NO--A VAST
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EXCAVATION
REVEALING HUNDREDS
OF CERAMIC
WARRIORS!

EVEN IN WAKANDA--WHERE
WONDERS ARE COMMON--
PLACE--NEWS OF THIS DIS-
COVERY WAS GREETED
WITH ASTONISHMENT!

--BY BUILDING A
MASSIVE TEMPLE TO
HOUSE HIM IN HIS
AFTERLIFE COMPLETE
WITH LIFESIZE
REPLICAS OF HIS
IMPERIAL ARMY!

LEGEND HAS IT
THAT A CHINESE
EMPEROR SOUGHT
IMMORTALITY IN
MUCH THE SAME
WAY AS THE
PHAROAMS OF
ANCIENT EGYPT--

SURELY THE UNKNOWN
WOULD NOT HAVE ME
DESTROY SUCH IRRE-
PLACEABLE ART TREAS-
URES TO RETRIEVE THE
PRIZE! HMM...MY JUNGLE-
BRED SENSES DETECT...
AN UNFAMILIAR SCENT!

HUH--? HE
DUCKED!

NICE MOVES, CAT-
MAN. I'M NOT
EASILY EVADED.

BUT YOU'RE
OUTTA YOUR
MIND IF YOU
THINK I'M
GONNA LET
A LITTLE
THING LIKE
SPEED COME
BETWEEN
ME AND THE
PRIZE.

YOU SEE, I'VE GOT
SOMETHING MORE
THAN JUST SPEED...

MEANWHILE, HIGH ABOVE THE ANCIENT
CITY...

UH-OH!
LOOKS LIKE
I'M NOT THE
ONLY HERO
WITH WINGS!

LE ANGEL!
LONG 'AVE
I READ OF
YOU, MON
AM!

ADAMANTIUM CLAWS FLASH
FROM THE BACK OF WOLVERINE'S
HAND AT COMMAND...

NOW LET US
SEE IF YOU ARE
AS FORMIDABLE
AS I'VE READ.



IN THE ANCIENT FUNERARY CITADEL NAMED AFTER EMPEROR QIN...



WOLVERINE,
THIS IS BUT
A GAME!

WHY DO
YOU USE
YOUR
CLAWS?

ANY FIGHT WORTH
FIGHTIN' IS WORTH
WINNIN', BLACKY!

C'MON OUT! HIDE!
NOW! KEEP ME
FROM SCENTIN'
YOUR SPOOR!

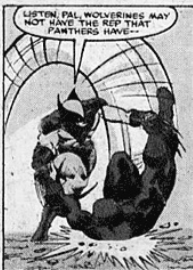
SO WOLVERINE'S
ANIMAL SENSES ARE
AS ACUTE AS MY OWN!



STILL, HE CANNOT
POSSIBLY POSSESS
MY JUNGLE-SWIFTNESS!

CAN
HE?

SO THERE
YA ARE!



LISTEN, PAL, WOLVERINES MAY
NOT HAVE THE REP THAT
PANTHERS HAVE--



--BUT MY
MONEY'S
RIDIN' ON
ME!

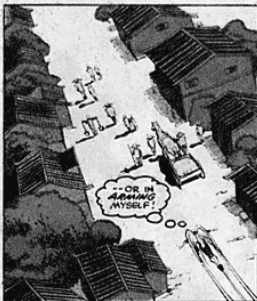
HE IS...
STRONG!!

BUT CAN
HE REALLY
MEAN TO
SLAY ME?



OVERHEAD...

LE PEREGRINE FLIES
AS WELL AS I DO--
AND FIGHTS BETTER!
MY ONLY HOPE LIES IN
OUTMANEUVERING
HIM--

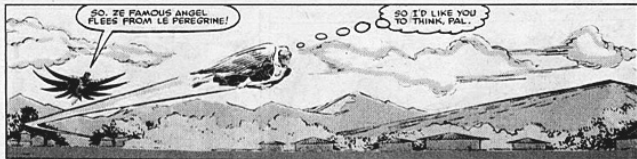


--OR IN
ARMING
MYSELF!



IF THIS CHINESE PEASANT
PARALYZED BY THE GRAND-
MASTER'S POWERS DOESN'T
MIND--

--I THINK I'LL
JUST BORROW HIS
WALKING-STICK!



SO, ZE FAMOUS ANGEL
FLEES FROM LE PEREGRINE!

SO I'D LIKE YOU
TO THINK, PAL.



WHY PROLONG ZE
AGONY, MON AMI?
WHY NOT JUST LET
ME END ZIS CHASE
BY BEATING YOU?



THAT'S IT, PEREGRINE--
KEEP TALKING!

PERHAPS
AFTER ZIS
I WILL BE
ASKED TO
JOIN ZE
X-MEN, EH?



PERHAPS,
PEREGRINE--

-- BUT
DON'T
COUNT
ON IT!



THERE'S MORE TO
AERIAL COMBAT
THAN SPEED AND
STRENGTH!

SLAKK!



THERE'S ALSO
A NIFTY LITTLE
ITEM CALLED...
SKILL!

MAIS OUI,
ANGEL-- BUT
SKILL IS A
COMMODITY
ON WHICH
YOU HAVE NO
MONOPOLY!



BLAST IT, HE'S GOT HIS
LEGS AROUND MY TORSO--
SQUEEZING THE AIR
OUT OF ME!

GOT TO
MAKE
HIM--



-- LET
GO!

UNHH!



SHORTLY...

YOU'RE GOOD,
PEREGRINE--
I'LL GIVE YOU
THAT!

I WON
THIS
LITTLE
ROUND
ON A WING
AND A PRAYER!





CHAPTER
5

FOURTH CONTEST: **STRUGGLE IN THE JUNGLE!**

REGORRAH! 'TISN'T
IRELAND WE'VE BEEN
SENT TO, TEAMMATES!

NO, WE
ARE SOME-
WHERE
NEAR THE
EQUATOR.

THE UNKNOWN'S
TEAM:
STORM
SHAMROCK
COLLECTIVE MAN

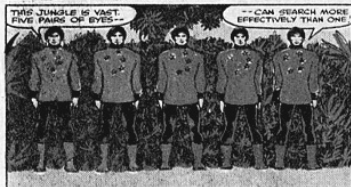
AND WE
ARE NOT
ALONE!

THE
GRANDMASTER'S
TEAM:
SASQUATCH
CAPTAIN AMERICA
BLITZKRIEG

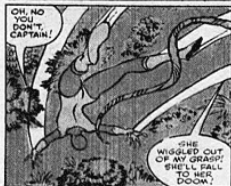
SOMEHOW
I DON'T THINK
I'M GOING TO LIKE
STAYING HERE TOO
LONG! HAVE YOU
EVER SMELLED
SWEAT-SOAKED
FUR?

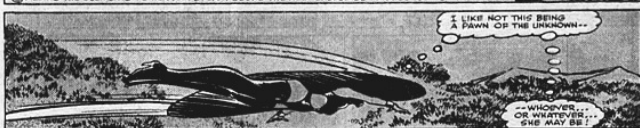
GOTT IN
HIMMEL, WHAT
KIND OF
PURSATORY HAS
THE GRANDMASTER
DISPATCHED
US TO?

JUDGING FROM THE
FLORA, I'D SAY WE
WERE SOMEWHERE IN
SOUTH AMERICA, FRIENDS!









BUT WHY DIDN'T
IT ATTACK
SHAMROCK??

NOT FAR AHEAD...

NOW THAT I'VE PINNED YOU
LITTLE MAN WHAT AM I
GOING TO DO WITH YOU?

IT IS I WHO
WILL DO SOMETHING TO YOU,
MONSTER!

CONCENTRATING WITH ALL HIS MIGHT THE COLLECTIVE MAN
CALLS UPON THE STRENGTH OF TEN THOUSAND OF HIS
COUNTRYMEN, WITH A SHIVER THEIR COMBINED POWER
COURSES THROUGH HIS BEING...

... AND IN A SINGLE FORCEFUL BLOW THROWS SASQUATCH
HIGH INTO THE TREES!

WHUNFFF!

BUT THE STRAIN
OF WIELDING
BLAZH POWER TAKES
ITS TOLL.

"THE YOUNG
COLLECTIVE
MAN PASSES
OUT."

UNNNH!

ELSEWHERE...

BLITZKRIIP!
ANY SIGN OF
THE PRIZE?

AFEN HERE KAYIPAN! I
WAS DRIVEN FROM THE
SKIES BY A REMARKABLE
FRAULEIN!

BUT I SEE
YOU HAVE HAD
TROUBLES OF
YOUR OWN!



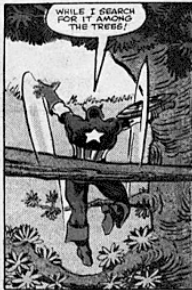
YES, TROUBLE
BY THE NAME OF
SHAGGY.

IT SEEMS
SHE HAD ALL
THE LUCK ON
HER SIDE!



TEE-HEE! THAT'S RIGHT,
CAPTAIN-- AND I HOPE TO
BE LUCKIER STILL!

BLITZKRIEG,
SEE WHAT YOU
CAN DO TO
FERRIS OUT
THE PRIZE!



WHILE I SEARCH
FOR IT AMONG
THE TREES!



JAWOHL, KAPITAN! BY
SUPER-CHARGING
THE AIR MOLECULES
ABOUT ME--

--I CAN CREATE AN
ELECTRICAL VORTEX
THAT MAY REVEAL
THE PRIZE!



BLITZKRIEG'S HURRICANE STRIPS THE
LEAVES FROM THE NEARBY JUNGLE TREES--

--AND A GOLDEN GLEAM IS
SEEN AMONG THE VEGETATION!



THE
PRIZE!!



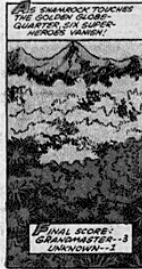
ONCE I REACH IT
THIS CONTEST
WILL BE OVER!



SORRY,
CAPTAIN!
BUT I
HAPPENED
TO BE
CLOSER
TO IT
THAN YOU!

JUST
LUCKY,
I
GUESS!

SHAGGY!



AS SHAGGY TOUCHES
THE GOLDEN GLEAM,
QUARTER SIX SUPER-
HEROES VANISH!

FINAL SCORE:
GRANDMASTER--3
UNKNOWN--3

CHAPTER 6

WINNER TAKES NONE!

THE ORBITING SPACE STADIUM IS ELECTRIC WITH ANTICIPATION... AS THE TWENTY-FOUR COMBATANTS MATERIALIZE IN JERSON, FRESH FROM THEIR BATTLES...

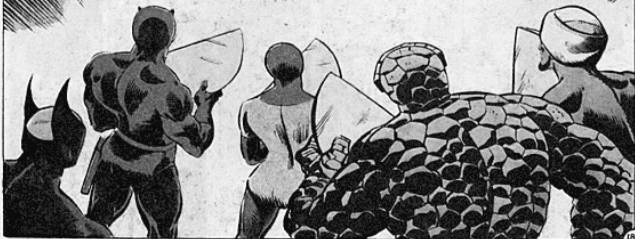
THE EYES OF THE GAMBLERS AND SPECTATORS BRAVE THE CRIMSON GLARE IN ORDER TO CATCH A GLIMPSE OF THE GLITTERING GLOBE-QUARTERS AND THE HEROES WHO HAVE RETRIEVED THEM...

THE GRANDMASTER'S FACE BETRAYS HIS GROVE CONCERN. THIS IS NOT JUST ANOTHER OF HIS IDLE DIVERSIONS. THE STAKES ARE HIGH... HIGHER THAN EVEN HE KNOWS...

THE UNKNOWN REMAINS AS INSCRUTABLE, AS UNFATHOMABLE AS EVER...

THE CONTEST IS OVER! ALL Pawns HAVE RETURNED!

IT WOULD SEEM YOU HAVE WON, GRANDMASTER. THREE OF THE FOUR Pawns DURING THE GLOBE-PIECES ARE YOURS...



YOU WHO HAVE PLAYED THE GAME SO VALENTLY, I SALUTE YOU! AS I PROMISED AT THE ONSET YOUR REWARD FOR YOUR COOPERATION IS THAT I SHALL NEITHER USE YOU NOR ANY DENIZEN OF EARTH IN MY GAMES EVER AGAIN!

SOME FORCE IS WRBSTING THE GOLDEN PRIZE RIGHT OUT OF MY HANDS!

AS SOON AS I JOIN THE FOUR COMPONENTS, THE POWER TO RESURRECT MY IMMORTAL BROTHER THE COLLECTOR SHALL BE MINE!

THAT IS RIGHT, GRANDMASTER, THE POWER--AND THE CHOICE TO USE IT-- WILL BE YOURS!

AS THE GRANDMASTER PONDER'S HIS OPPONENT'S CRYPTIC REMARK, THE FANS STAND ALL BUT IGNORED...

I WAS THERE WHEN THE COLLECTOR DIED. HE WAS OBLITERATED TO COSMIC ASH!

I DON'T LIKE THE SMELL OF THIS, THE BRAD IN THE PURPLE CLOAK. REeks OF DECAY...

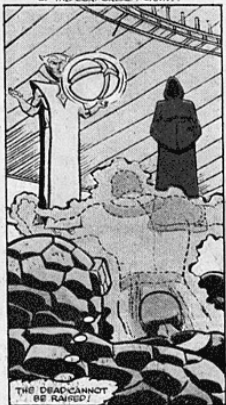
WHOEVER HAS THE ABILITY TO GRANT THE GRANDMASTER POWER TO RE-STORE LIFE TO HIS BROTHER...

--HAS GOTTA HAVE MORE IN MIND THAN PLAYIN' GAMES! I'VE PLAYED ENOUGH POKER TA BBT THE UNKNOWN'S GOT AN ACE UP HER SLEEVE.

THE SPIRITS OF MY ANCESTORS BID ME BEWARE. THE UNKNOWN BRINGS DEATH FOR SOMEONE HERE...

AND NOW, I SHALL CLAIM MY PRIZES!

SLIPPING INTO DREAM-TIME, THE AUSTRALIAN MYSTIC KNOWN AS TALISMAN STEPS OUT OF HIS CORPSEAL FORM...



THE DEAD CANNOT BE RAISED!



TO ATTEMPT SUCH AN ACT-- TO RECLAIM ONE LIFE-FORCE WITHOUT SUBSTITUTING ANOTHER-- WOULD CAUSE A DISRUPTION OF THE NATURAL ORDER.

THE UNKNOWN MUST BE AWARE OF THAT!

PERHAPS SHE EVEN DESIRES IT! WHY? I MUST KNOW WHO THE UNKNOWN IS... BUT AS I CANNOT TOUCH HER IN MY ASTRAL FORM, I MUST HAVE AN AGENT.



UNDETECTED THE ASTRAL ABANDONING TWINKLE HIS MYSTIC BULL-ROADERS--

--AND THE SWIRLING ASTRAL STATE KNOWN AS DREAM-TIME DECEASES TALISMAN'S EFFORT TO REACH OUT TO--



...THE INVISIBLE GIRL!

I FEEL TALISMAN'S POWER-- JUST AS I DID BACK ON THE ICE!

SUSAN RICHARDS, THE ALIEN CANNOT DETECT US... YET, YOU MUST FOLLOW ME-- INTO DREAM-TIME.

BUT THE OTHER HEROES HAVE SO MUCH MORE POWER--!



DREAM-TIME IS OVERWHELMING TO THE UNINITIATED.

THEY WOULD NEED TIME TO ADJUST-- WHERE AS YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED IT FULLY BEFORE.

AND IT IS YOUR STRENGTH OF WILL WHICH ALLOWED YOU TO COPE IN DREAM-TIME--

"CONTEST" 2.



--THAT WILL ALSO ENABLE YOU TO RETAIN A HOLD ON YOUR SANITY WHEN YOU CONFRONT...THE UNKNOWN!

I-I'VE FEARED HER SINCE I FIRST SET EYES ON HER!

NOW, MAY HEAVEN HELP ME, I'M GOING TO FIND OUT...



...WHY?!

HER BODY WHACKED WITH UNEXPLAINABLE TREMORS, THE DISTANT MEMBER OF THE ASTRALISTIC ROUN SUMMONS ALL HER COURAGE--

--AND, TEARING BACK THE UNKNOWN'S COWL, REVEALS THE GRINNING FEATURES OF... DEATH!

COLD--
SO COLD!

HER HORRIFIC APPEARANCE MAGNIFIED BY THE HALLUCINOGENIC EFFECTS OF DREAM-TIME, DEATH FILLS THE ASSEMBLED HEROES WITH FEAR OF HER PRESENCE!

THE UNKNOWN IS NOW KNOWN.

YES, THE UNKNOWN IS *DEATH*. WHO ELSE COULD HOLD ALL YOU HEROES--AND YOUR WORLD--IN THRALL...

--THAN ONE WHOSE DOMINION EXTENDS OVER ALL?

AND YOU, GRANDMASTER--DID YOU KNOW YOUR OPPONENT TO BE THE GRIMMEST GAMESMAN OF THEM ALL?

OF COURSE! WHO ELSE COULD POSSESS THE POWER TO RESURRECT AN IMMORTAL?

STILL, THE HUMAN'S FEARS ARE WARRANTED.

I NEGLECTED TO TELL YOU, GRANDMASTER, THAT THE GOLDEN GLOBE IS BUT AN EMPTY INSTRUMENT. IT NEEDS A LIFE-FORCE TO ENERGIZE IT.

THEN YOU HAVE MISREPRESENTED THE TERMS OF OUR CONTEST. YOU HAVE *CHEATED!*

DEATH NEVER CHEATS. MY RULES ARE MY OWN, AND ALL THE UNIVERSE MUST OBEY THEM.

YES, IT CAN RESTORE THE COLLECTOR TO LIFE, PROVIDING THAT ONE OF EQUAL POWER DIES IN HIS PLACE. ONE SUCH AS YOU, GRANDMASTER.





HOWEVER, I'M WILLING TO PLAY A GAME WITH YOU...

AND THE RULES, DEATH? WILL THEY BE THE SAME YOU USED TO TRICK MY BROTHER?

OF COURSE, COLLECTOR. WHEN YOU PLAY A GAME OF LIFE AND DEATH, MINE ARE THE ONLY RULES.

HA HA HA HA HA



DEATH DEPARTS, TAKING THE COLLECTOR WITH HER...



IN THEIR WAKE, ALL THE HEROES OF EARTH ARE DISPERSED...



...THE ORBITING ARMS THAT HOUSED THEM COLLAPSE INTO NOTHINGNESS...

IN AVENGERS MANSION, LIKE ALL ACROSS THE FACE OF THE EARTH, HEROES FIND THEMSELVES EXACTLY WHERE THEY HAD BEEN BEFORE THEIR ABDUCTION...



UH, HOLD IT, GUYS! LOOK AT THE TIME. WE'VE BEEN GONE FOR ALMOST AN HOUR.



I KNOW IT'S A BIT TACKY, CONSIDERING WHAT WE'VE JUST BEEN THROUGH, BUT I DID MANAGE TO ELUDE YOU FOR A MINUTE AS I WAGGELED.

*BACK IN CONTEST #1.

BUT YOU KNOW, IT'S GONNA BE A LOONNNG TIME BEFORE I FEEL LIKE PLAYING GAMES!



THE AVENGERS STAND IN MUTE AGREEMENT, POWDERING THE GRANDMASTER... A MAN WHOSE PARSON FOR GAMES KNEW NO BOUNDS... A MAN WHO GAMBLER TO THE VERY... END.

MARVEL SUPER HEROES-1982

CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE

WASP

(Janet Van Dyne, waitress) American with the ability to shrink to insect-size and fly by means of surgically-implanted membrane-wings. Gains a bio-electric "wasp's sting." Member of the Avengers. Ex-wife of Henry Pym (Yellowjacket), who concealed her powers. Current whereabouts: New York City. First appearance: TALES TO ASTONISH #44.

WEREWOLF

(Jack Russell, occultist) American who inherited family curse to turn him into a werewolf, in such a state he has supernatural strength, agility, stamina, and ferocity. He is in command of his transformations and retains his human intelligence except during the three nights per month of the full moon. Current whereabouts: Los Angeles, California. First appearance: MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #2.

WOLVERINE

(Logan — ex-kidnapper) Canadian mutant with great strength and agility, and the ability to heal very quickly. His bones were surgically reinforced with the steel-alloy Adamantium, and he was given retractable claws implanted in each hand. Member of the X-Men. Current whereabouts: Salem Center, New York. First appearance: HULK #181.

WONDER MAN

(Simon Williams, ex-industrialist, aspiring actor) American possessing enormous strength and near-invincibility. The chemical processes of his metabolism have been replaced by some strange form of energy. Former member of the Avengers. Current whereabouts: Hollywood, California. First appearance: AVENGERS #8.



BANSHEE

(Sean Cassidy) Possessed sonic scream, ability to fly. Former member of X-Men. First appearance: X-MEN #28. Reason for retirement: loss of power.

BIOTRON

Humanoid robot from the Microverse; planet of Homeworld. Former member of the Microns. First appearance: MICRONAUTS #1. Reason for retirement was destroyed in MICRONAUTS #27.

BLUE DIAMOND

(Elton Morrow, anthropologist) American whose body could change to the density and strength of a diamond while still allowing mobility. Member of the Liberty Legion. First appearance: MARVEL PREMIERE #29. Reason for retirement: changed to living diamond and went off into space with the Star-Dancer.

CRIMSON CAVALIER

(Real name unknown) Frenchman who used a fencing foil against the Germans during World War I. Member of the Freedom's Five. First appearance: INVADERS #7. Reason for retirement: (presumably) old age.

DESTROYER

(Roger Aubrey) Britisher who had developed great strength, agility, stamina and fighting skills. Active during World War II. Second person to use costume and name, first being Brian Fawcett (Iron Fist). First appearance (as Dyna-Mite): INVADERS #14. First appearance (as Destroyer): INVADERS #26. Reason for retirement: (presumably) old age.

DOMINIC FORTUNE

(David Fortunoff, adventurer) American with acrobatic abilities and lightning prowess. Carried a gun. Active in the 1930's. First appearance: MARVEL PUNCH #2. Reason for retirement: old age.

FIN

(Real name unknown) American who used aquatic powers during World War II. First appearance: INVADERS #5. Reason for retirement: (presumably) old age.

GHOST RIDER

(Johnny Blaze, motorcycle stunt rider) American who through sorcery became the host-body for a blazing skeletal demon who is able to create objects out of mystic flame, project soul-scalding Hellfire, and is super-strong and nearly impervious to harm. First appearance: MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #5. Reason for retirement: Blaze is no longer able to control the demon and force him to use his powers for good.

GIANT-MAN II

(Bill Foster, physicist) Black American who could mentally stimulate growth in height and mass up to about twentyfold. First appearance (as Bill Foster): AVENGERS #32. First appearance (as Giant-Man): POWER MAN #24. First appearance (as Giant-Man): MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #55. Reason for retirement: radiation poisoning weakened body.

GOLDEN GIRL

(Georgy Lou Sabaki) Japanese-American who possessed the ability to shoot solar beams from her hands, and fly. Member of the Kid Commandos. First appearance: INVADERS #28. Reason for retirement: (presumably) old age.

GORILLA MAN

(Ken, occupation unknown) American who through African sorcery became a gorilla creature with human intelligence. First appearance: WHAT IF #9. Reason for retirement: unknown.

HUMAN ROBOT

A humanoid robot created by an unnamed scientist in the 1800's who was programmed by Marvel Boy's Uranian science to aid the cause of good. First appearance: WHAT IF #9. Reason for retirement: unknown.

HUMAN TOP

(David Mitchell) Black American who had the ability to spin adults in circles at incredible speeds. Member of the Kid Commandos. First appearance: INVADERS #28. Reason for retirement: (presumably) old age.

JACK FROST

(No alias known) Humanoid of unknown origin who could command cold and ice. Member of the Liberty Legion. First appearance: MARVEL PREMIERE #29. Reason for retirement: unknown (whereabouts also unknown).

MADAME MASQUE

(Whitney Frost, ex-crime boss, alias Big M) American with no real super-powers who was briefly on the side of the law. First appearance: TALES OF SUSPENSE #97. Reason for retirement: resumed criminal career.

MAN-WOLF

(John Jamison, astronaut) American who was transformed into a powerful humanoid wolf by means of an alien gem called the moonstone, which attached itself parasitically to his body. First appearance: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #124. Reason for retirement: the moonstone was surgically removed from Jamison's body in SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #3.

MANTIS

(Real name unknown) Vietnamese empath who had a great mastery of the martial arts. First appearance: AVENGERS #114. Reason for retirement: abandoned corporeal life to become Celestial Madonna.

MORDED THE MYSTIC

(No other name known) Twelfth Century Britisher who gained great sorcerous powers from the evil demon Biotron. He tried to wield his powers in the cause of good, the power itself was derived from evil, and so MODRED became a pawn of this demon. First appearance: MARVEL FEATURE #1. Reason for retirement: succumbed to evil and had his intellect reduced to child's level.



MS. MARVEL

(Carol Danvers, ex-security agent, freelance writer) American who possessed ability to fly, super-strength, heightened reflexes, and a precognitive Seventh Sense. First appearance: AVENGERS #26. Reason for retirement: MS. MARVEL #1. Reason for retirement: loss of powers.

NOVA

(Richard Rydler, student) American who possessed super-strength and ability to fly. First appearance: NOVA #1. Reason for retirement: loss of powers.

PATRIOT

(Jeff Mace, reporter) American who used his natural athletic and fighting skills to battle crime. Member of the Liberty Legion. Became Captain America II following the original's presumed death in the late 1940's and was a member of the All-Winners Squad. First appearance (as the Patriot): PREMIERE #9. First appearance (as Captain America II)/WHAT IF #4. Reason for retirement: unknown.

PRESENSE

(Sergei — ex-scientist) Russian mutant who gained vast cosmic powers through exposure to radiation. First appearance: DEFENDERS #52. Reason for retirement: left Earth to seek destiny.

PROWLER

(Hobie Brown, window washer) Black American who used various gymnastics to fight crime. First appearance: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #78. Reason for retirement: voluntarily gave up costumed identity to devote time to civilian life.

RED GUARDIAN

(Dr. Travis Beldare, neurosurgeon) Russian possessing great psychic and martial skills. Used discus as weapons. First appearance: DEFENDERS #35. Reason for retirement: left Earth to seek destiny with the Phoenix.

SCARECROW

A mysterious unearthly figure of vengeance who guarded the portal to a demonic dimension on the surface of an oil painting and coaxed it to life to battle demons. First appearance: DEAD OF NIGHT #11. Reason for retirement: the oil painting was destroyed, sealing the portal between dimensions in MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #18.

SCARAB

(Abdul Faou, archeologist) Egyptian who possessed an ancient power called granting him abilities of flight, strength, and energy blasts. First appearance: INVADERS #28. Reason for retirement: loss of scarab that granted powers.



SILVER STEEL AND SILVER SQUIRE

(Real names unknown) Britishers who used armor and swords to fight the Germans during World War I. Members of the Freedom's Five. First appearance: INVADERS #7. Reason for retirement: (presumably) old age.

SPIRIT

(Jacqueline Falsworth-Christoff) Britisher who possessed the power of flight and heat rays. Member of the Avengers. First appearance: INVADERS #12. Reason for retirement: facing powers with old age.

THAN MAN

(Stan Jackson, scientist) American who gained the ability to flatten his body to the width of paper. Member of the Liberty Legion. First appearance: MARVEL PREMIERE #29. Reason for retirement: (presumably) old age.

TWO-GUN KID

(Matt Hawk, gunslinger) Nineteenth Century American who donned mask and side-shooters to battle the lawless. Briefly came to the Twentieth Century via time machine. First appearance: TWO-GUN KID #1. Reason for retirement: retired to his own time.

WHITE TIGER

(Hector Ayala, student) Puerto Rican who used mystic animalistic and hypnotic powers. Carries guns, sword, and fighting ability. First appearance: DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU #22. Reason for retirement: loss of amulets that empowered him.

WHIZZER

(Robert Frank, nuclear plant worker) American who gained the power of super-speed. Member of the Liberty Legion and Invaders. First appearance: GIANT-SIZE AVENGERS #1. Reason for retirement: old age (chain condition).

WHIRL

(Brian DeWort, ex-policeman) American with telepathic and hypnotic powers. Carries guns. Status is: hard to question. First appearance: MARVEL TEAM-UP #48. Reason for retirement: unknown.

YELLOWJACKET

(Henry Pym, biochemist, cyberneticist) American who invented serum enabling him to reduce to insect-size. Used bioelectric "stings." Former husband to Janet Van Dyne (Wasp). First appearance (as Dr. Pym): TALES TO ASTONISH #27. First appearance (as Ant-Man): TALES TO ASTONISH #35. First appearance (as Giant-Man): TALES TO ASTONISH #39. First appearance (as Golden Age) AVENGERS #28. First appearance (as Yellowjacket): AVENGERS #58. Reason for retirement: began criminal career.

